

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY Austria

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Urfahr

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VALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

632660

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

12 May 1954

REFERENCES

COPIES 1

ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 28 March 1954, 17 officers with black-bordered red epaulets, including two majors as ranking officers, and 6 officers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, including a major as ranking officer, were observed entering or leaving the Auhof Kaserno northeast of Urfahr (N 49/V 88). About 300 troops were engaged in athletics or recreational activities in the barracks area. Five motor vehicles were observed in the garages. On 29 March, personnel observed at the Auhof Kaserno included 11 officers with black-bordered red epaulets, 4 officers wearing black-bordered red epaulets with artillery insignia, 5 officers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, each group with a captain as ranking officer; and 17 EM with black-bordered red epaulets, and 3 EM wearing black-bordered red epaulets with signal insignia. The installation was guarded by a sentry with black-bordered red epaulets. Sedan [ ] and trucks [ ] driven by soldiers with black-bordered red epaulets were parked in front of the installation. About 40 motor vehicles, 2 SU-76, 1-57-mm AT gun, and 4 medium mortars on two-wheel carriages were observed in the barracks area. At 1:30 p.m., a column of 15 trucks occupied by officers and EM with black-bordered red epaulets left the installation toward Freistadt (O 49/G 91).

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All vehicles were driven by soldiers with black-bordered red epaulets. Equipment loaded on trucks included: four heavy machine guns with shield on wheeled mount; and two canvas-covered artillery pieces which had about two-meter long barrels and pneumatic tires. Another canvas-covered weapon on a two-wheel carriage had an about one-meter long barrel and was hauled by a truck. On 30 March, motor vehicles and weapons observed on 29 March still were parked in the Auhof Kaserno area.

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Comment. The information confirms the 287th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt stationed in Urfahr until late March 1954. It is rather definitely believed that all officers and EM, and weapons observed belonged to the above regiment. The column which departed toward Freistadt probably moved to the Doellersheim troop training grounds for firing practice or field exercises. Most of the vehicle numbers belonged to the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div.